

# Indiana Man Hired to Manage Torrance Chamber

Your Complete Community Newspaper—Every Sunday and Thursday

## Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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# STEVENS TO RESIGN CITY POST

## City's Only Manager to Quit in June

City Manager George Stevens, who has been the only man to hold that position in Torrance, announced to the council Tuesday night that he will leave the post he has held for 13½ years at the end of June.

He announced his decision to the council at a quick pre-council session, and then repeated it publicly during the meeting of the council. The 59-year-old city executive said he would complete the fiscal year which ends June 30. Vacation time he has accrued will probably get him away from the office several weeks ahead of that date, he indicated.

"I am leaving the field of municipal administration after 37 years," Stevens told the HERALD yesterday, "to do some of the things my wife and I have always wanted to do."

He indicated that he was anxious to travel, and hoped he might be able to secure assignment to some foreign nation as an advisor in municipal affairs.

"I'd like to go to Rio," Stevens told the HERALD, "but, unfortunately, so would everyone else who is interested in this type of assignment." He said he had long had a desire to go to South America.

STEVENS came to Torrance in January, 1948, after the voters had approved the city manager form of government the preceding fall. He found the city near bankruptcy, and was pressed during the first months of his administration to return the municipal finance to a sound basis.

At the time of his arrival, Torrance had a population of about 14,000 persons. Today, slightly more than 13 years later, the population exceeds 105,000. During that time, the city's tax rate has been increased only slightly, an accomplishment of which the city manager is proud.

WHILE STEVENS has been



GEORGE STEVENS ... To Leave City Post

instrumental in many of the programs which have brought acclaim to the city, he has been the target of some criticism by members of the city council in recent months, and was refused a pay raise earlier this month to correspond with raises given other city employees. The council split 4-3 on the refusal to grant him an equal raise.

One of his most consistent supporters on the council said this was probably "the straw that broke his back." Stevens, however, says his retirement is something he had planned for a long time.

Announcement of his plan to step aside immediately opened the door for speculation about his successor.

INSIDE track position is be- (Continued on Page 2)

## New Chamber Manager Due In Mid-April

A 37-year-old Chamber of Commerce executive from Indiana has been named manager of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and will assume his duties here in about 30 days, it was announced yesterday by President William Shawger.



DON REINING ... Due Next Month

Don Reining, who has been manager of the Greater Lafayette, Ind., Chamber of Commerce since 1952, submitted his resignation to that group Monday to clear the way to accept the local position, Shawger said.

A NAVY Veteran of World War II, Reining returned to school after leaving the service in 1946 and earned a bachelor of science degree in business administration at Indiana University in 1950. He served two years as member of the Jeffersonville, Ind., Chamber of Commerce after graduating from college, and then took the Lafayette post.

He has been active with the Clark County, Ind., planning commission, and has served on a citizens' traffic committee; was regional chairman of the American Chamber of Commerce Executives Assn. insurance retirement plan, was a member of the board of directors of the Lafayette Symphony (Continued on page 3)



PARTY TIME ... Daniel hesitates as DeWayne laughs before trying to blow out the candle and David looks on with a smile. The triplet sons of Mr. and Mrs. John Watson, 3324 W. 186th St., celebrated their first birthday Tuesday. (Herald Photo)

## Triplets Celebrate First Birth Date With a Party

By BOB WILTON  
Herald Staff Writer  
Happy birthday to you, Daniel, David and DeWayne. The triplet sons of Mr. and Mrs. John Watson celebrated their first birth anniversary in their

home at 3324 W. 186th St. Tuesday with little boy presents and a cake topped with a single candle.

The lively trio made the pages of the HERALD after their debut into this world a year ago and then when they had their first haircut last December. Pictures were made of the event and one of them found its way via wire-photo into the pages of the Omaha, Neb., World-Herald. A reader there clipped out the picture of the triplets and sent it to the Watsons. The envelope was addressed:

Mr. and Mrs. John Watson, parents of triplets, Torrance, Calif.  
The letter was delivered by the Torrance Post Office because someone in the local postal department remembered seeing the picture of the

## Absentee Voter Ballots Ready Next Wednesday

Persons desiring absentee ballots for the April 18 board of education election may obtain them through the Torrance board of education or the County Superintendent of Schools between March 29 and April 13, it was reported here yesterday.

Those requesting ballots will receive applications which must be returned for the ballot. Ballots must be returned within five days after the election.

## Board OKs West High Contract

A \$2,296,440 bid for construction of the first unit of the West High School was let by the Torrance Board of Education Tuesday night.

Crown Construction Co. was lowest of eight bidders. The first unit is slated to be ready for use in September, 1962. Bids were about \$100,000 less than previously estimated cost. Architect Roy Donley's plans for the school won a citation from the American Institute of Architects for "careful planning, creative design, and excellent treatments have added a distinctive quality to a relatively low-cost school."

The school will be located on (Continued on page 2)

## Three More File for Board Race; Total 16

Three candidates filing in final hours of the day Friday completed the roster for the April 18 school board election at 16, including the three incumbents and 13 challengers. Filing Friday were Henry R. Carreiro, 26, of 1319 Crenshaw Blvd; Kurt T. Sherry, M.D., and Burton L. Easley, DDS, of 3306 E. Dorado.

The HERALD today publishes the biography and campaign statement of Patricia Huber, and is preparing similar statements on the balance of the candidates to be included in an early issue. Several will be published in the HERALD Sunday.

## Moose to Fete 37th Year Of Local Lodge Saturday

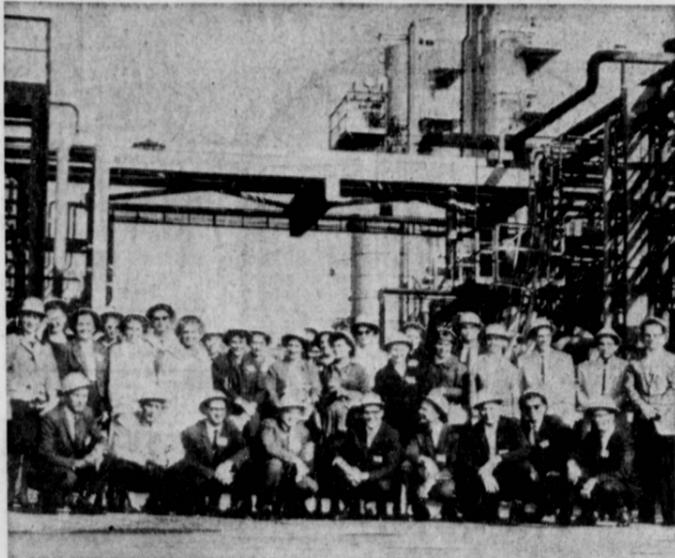
The 37th anniversary of the founding of the Torrance lodge

of the Loyal Order of Moose fraternity will be celebrated at a banquet to be presented in the lodge hall, 1744 W. Carson St., next Saturday at 7 p.m., Dan Hutchinson, governor of the lodge, announced yesterday.

George W. Clay, a past governor of the lodge and chairman of the birthday dinner-dance, has revealed that several state Moose officials and civic dignitaries will attend and participate in the program. Dancing to the music of Joe Radolovich and his orchestra will follow the banquet. Reservations for the anniversary party may be obtained by contacting Clay or James A. Evans, lodge secretary, at the lodge hall.

In addition to Clay, the list of past governors of the Torrance Moose lodge include Fred Lydy, Daniel Desmond, Joseph Platt, George W. Powell, Marvin McArthur, Stanley Feiman, James McCune, A. H. Bartlett, James Johnston, and Tom Wilkes.

The annual election of the Torrance Moose lodge will be conducted April 4th. Douglas Dixon and Charles R. Britt have been nominated as candidates for the office of governor.



B-E DAY VISITORS ... A group of 33 teachers out of the nearly 1000 that toured Torrance businesses and industries last Friday were guests of the Mobil Oil Co. refinery here. Above they are shown during a tour of the refinery where they were guests of Manager A. E. Thompson.



STUDENTS HONORED ... Honor Society pins were presented at Ambassador High School by Rev. Guy Heath Sr., who is pictured pinning one of the citations on his son, Guy Jr. Other recipients are Nancy Tackett, Elnora Anderton, Shirley Garrett and Gwenn Klies. Back row: Bob McCutchen, Rick McCutchen, Ron Richardson and Sondra Quillin. (Herald Photo)

## A Penny for your Thoughts

Owners of new stores in the Southwood Shopping Center were asked this question: "What prompted you to go into business for yourself?"

William L. Black, TV Sales and Service:  
"I've often asked myself that question, but this is the type of work I have always been in and I really enjoy it. I had my first place in 1947 and then worked for Douglas Aircraft. Now I have this new location and no parking problems this time."

Larry Sharp, Interior Decorating:  
"Interior decorating is a challenging business to me. Everyone is looking for something a little different to make their home stand out individually. I like this type of work. I don't think I have made a mistake on this location."

Eldon Perkins, Ice Cream Shop:  
"I was an executive for a soft drink company then decided to go into the liquor business. But I always had a soft spot for the ice cream business because I spent a lot of time while in high school working behind a soda fountain. This area is a natural because of so many kids."

Seelig Williams, Music Store:  
"Our company was doing a lot of business in this area, mostly renting instruments to schools. So we decided to open a store here. We are getting very good response with students for private lessons."

Lorraine Petri, Dress Shop:  
"This isn't my business but I manage it. I have always been in the selling end of this and even if I had the money I would not want my own business. It's too much of a responsibility. I like this type of a shop because it is small, a family-type place and friendly."

## Hospital Council Returns Ensminger

Leonard A. Ensminger, Torrance Memorial Hospital, has been re-elected to the board of directors of the Hospital Council of Southern California. The Council's officers and directors were installed at the group's 38th Annual Banquet, Monday at the Biltmore